



CLASS XII ENGLISH CORE (301) QUESTION BANK 2017-18

READING SKILL

I. Read the given passage carefully and answers the questions given below: 12 marks

1. A scholar is refused admission to a good school primarily because of his weak interactive skills. It is indeed pathetic that though English is spoken fluently and used every day; yet none is satisfied with their abilities. A learner feels he cannot express himself the way he wants to and he fails miserably to connect with his own hidden potential.

2. The Education system, in its endeavors to make Curriculum relevant and life-oriented has, as a matter of fact, fallen short of its standards. It is oblivious of the fact that the most applied and practical subject- English: is devoid of practical afflatus. English is at cross roads. Both aspects of Education: the cultural that empowers a learner to grow and the productive aspect that makes him do things, is relegated to the background curriculum thus stands lopsided. It fails to provide full range of services and cannot tap teachers' expertise. No proper moves and strategies have been formulated to make it unique. English courses are mushrooming and alluring advertisements clip are often spotted.

3. With the onset of the new millennium, demands of the Educational System to sensitize itself to changing societal needs has also increased manifold. The new race of human beings has to be served New Curriculum that caters to the Unity of Thought, Action & Deed and help evolve an integrated human personality. A Comprehensive Curriculum alone can enhance their understanding of four basic skills.

4. Acquiring the skill of English is no Cakewalk. And English is no Science where results are verified; but it means Construction; ingenuity at work. The Architecture that it builds can never be complete if it is divorced from learning by doing.

5. There are a number of Projects like Phonetics, News-reading, Indian literature, Poetry-composition, Interview skills, biography- launch, etc. which can help a pupil to experiment till he finds a medium that helps free flow of thoughts, to think critically and creatively and emerge as literary competent. As long as there is proper feeding, English will live in their hearts and reign in their minds. Sooner or later, they will be blessed with a marathon for actionable learning that shall make a multidimensional impact on them.

*“Within the enclosure (pupils) lies the potential for a new beginning
And within this exciting beginning lies an astonishing future for him.”*

6. English cannot be conferred so easily and so soon. We need to take control of English. There is a grave need to designate English, without the slightest hesitation, a practical status if at all, we want a remarkable future. The lack of efforts in learning English and the general feeling of not being interested in learning the English Language that are plaguing the system should be urgently addressed. Should not we all battle against this abuse?

1.1. On the basis of your reading the passage answer the questions given below. 9marks

1. What are the interactive situations? (1)
2. What is the 'matter of grave concern'? (2)

3. Explain unity of thought, action and deed? (2)
4. How can English help evolve an integrated personality? (2)
5. How can you find an astonishing future? (2)
- 1.2. Pick out one word from the passage that means the same as: (3)
- a). Nascent (para1) b). Pragmatic (para2) c). Depths (para 6)

2. Read the given passage carefully and answers the questions given below: 10marks

Figure it out for yourself, my lad,
 You've all that the greatest of men have had
 Two, arms, two hands, two legs, two eyes,
 And a brain to use if you would be wise.
 With this equipment they all began,
 So start for the top and say "I can"

Look them over, the wise and great,
 They take their food from a common plate
 And similar knives and forks they use,
 With similar laces they tie their shoes,
 The world considers them brave and smart.
 But you've all they had when they made their start.

You can triumph and come to skill,
 You can be great if only you will,
 You're well equipped for what fight you choose,
 You have legs and arms and a brain to use,
 And the man who has risen, great deeds to do
 Began his life with no more than you.

You are the handicap you must face,
 You are the one who must choose your place,
 You must say where you want to go
 How much you will study the truth to know,
 God has equipped you for life, But He
 Lets you decide what you want to be.

Courage must come from the soul within,
 The man must furnish the will to win,
 So figure it out for yourself, my lad,
 You were born with all that the great have had,
 With your equipment they all began.
 Get hold of yourself and say: "I can."

Answer the following questions.

a) The lad is advised to:

- i) do the impossible ii) be smart iii) be a great person iv) give up challenges

1

- b) What kind of life did great men live? 2
- c) How has God equipped us for life? 1
- d) What does God let us decide? 1
- e) The greatest trait to win is:
- i) brain power ii) will power iii) physical power iv) supernatural power 1
- f) What message does the poet want to convey through the poem? 2
- g) Find words/phrases from the passage which mean the same as:- 2
- i) to understand
- ii) drawback/disadvantage

3. Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow: 12marks

1. My father gets a faraway look in his eyes that's unmistakable. As he looks towards the horizon and his eyes seek out the bright flashes of snow-capped peaks, we all know what he's thinking. Mountain tops have always had that magnetic effect on him.
2. As I grew up I inherited some of my father's restlessness. I know many people think there must be some compulsion for the son of Edmund Hillary to climb mountains. They assume that I need to compete, or measure up as if there was some strong mark on stone that says, "Thou shalt climb mountains" — and in particular Everest, whether you like it or not. But for me it's simpler than that. I think families are like factories : some manufacture lawyers while others produce landscape gardeners. The Hillary family is a limited production mountaineering establishment.
3. Today at the age of 48, I am a determined mountain man : love to climb them, love to dream about them. I have been on more than 30 mountaineering expeditions, from the Himalayas to the Antarctic. And yes I have climbed Everest — twice. I treasure the same things that drew my father to climbing- — great feeling of friendship and trust among people who work together, sense of pleasure and excitement, especially in dangerous places where-your life depends upon making the right call. I guess I am luckier than most because I can fall back on all that my father has taught me. One devastating day in 1995 this advice saved my life.
4. Just below the summit of the mountain known as K2 or the "savage mountain" of the Himalayas — there is a steep ice channel called - "The Bottleneck". I was among a party of eight climbers heading for the summit, with just 400 meters left to climb. Perched there, 8200 meters above sea-level and looking east along the northern edge of the Karakoram Mountains to the Tibetan Plateau, I noticed curls of ominous cloud began to move in suddenly and quickly with great force.
5. As the weather worsened, I became very concerned. I stopped. Something didn't feel right. At that moment I clearly heard my father's voice. Down. Go down. Stick to your guns, Peter.
6. Then, from above me, I heard another voice - a woman's. "Come on up. Use the red rope". Alison Hargreaves, a fellow climber, was encouraging me to join her. Not for you, Peter. Was that my father's voice again ? The unsettled feeling in me grew stronger. Finally I told Jeff Lakes, my climbing partner, that I was going down. He too was feeling unsure, but decided to go on ahead. As I headed down, I looked back at Jeff a couple of times, until a thick, threatening cloud blocked the view. Soon, the same fast-moving

cloud would engulf the summit and plunge me into an isolated world of terror.

7. Don't be afraid to make your own decisions. Don't be afraid to stand alone. That was my father's voice.
8. Alone in body but not in spirit I descended. But with fear tapping upon my shoulders, I was caught in the frightening situation of the rising storm. The flanks of the mountain were out of control and so, perhaps, was I.
9. Fear makes you careful. Fear makes you good. Fear, my father told me, is not something you manage. So I seized on what I could control: a well-clipped descender and a taut rope. For hours I continued to go down rope after plunging rope — every rope one closer to the ice ledge at Camp-2.
10. When I awoke in my tent the next morning, it was silent, sunny, still. I alone had successfully descended from the summit pyramid of K2 that night. The seven above were dead.
11. Life in a famous family has its advantages and disadvantages. — Lunch with Indira Gandhi or a trip to the North Pole with Neil Armstrong are one — although a rather extraordinary — side of the coin. The other can be a battle with identity and independence. When I am 80 years old myself, I know I will more than likely still be greeted with, "Wait a minute, you're Ed Hillary's son !" But my father is quite a man and I am proud of him.

- (a) On the basis of your reading of the above passage answer these questions.
- (i) What does the son read in his father's eyes? 1
 - (ii) State any two qualities of the father that have rubbed off on his son.2
 - (iii) "The Hillary family is a limited production mountaineering establishment". What does the author mean by this? 1
 - (iv) In what way does the author consider himself more fortunate than other mountaineers? 1
 - (v) What was the father's opinion about 'fear'? How did it help the author?2
 - (vi) What was the fate of the seven companions who climbed the K2 summit?1
 - (vii) Being a celebrity's son has its own limitations. What are those? 1
- (b) Find words from the above passage which mean the same as each of the

following:

3 x 1 = 3

- (i) to be as good/successful as expected (para 2)
- (ii) sitting on high and dangerous position (para 4)
- (iii) tight and completely stretched (para 9)

4. Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow: 12marks

1. While there is no denying that the world loves a winner, it is important that you recognize the signs of stress in your behaviour and be healthy enough to enjoy your success. Stress can strike anytime, in a fashion that may leave you unaware of its presence in your life. While a certain amount of pressure is necessary for performance, it is important to be able to recognise your individual limit. For instance, there are some individuals who accept competition in a healthy fashion. There are others who collapse into weeping wrecks before an exam or on comparing marks-sheets and finding that their friend has scored better.

2. Stress is a body reaction to any demands or changes in its internal and external environment.

Whenever there is a change in the external environment such as temperature, pollutants, humidity and working conditions, it leads to stress. In these days of competition when a person makes up his mind to surpass what has been achieved by others, leading to an imbalance between demands and resources, it causes psycho-social stress. It is a part and parcel of everyday life. . The loss of a toy or a reprimand from the parents might create a stress shock in a child. An adolescent who fails an examination may feel as if everything has been lost and life has no further meaning. In an adult the loss of his or her companion, job or professional failure may appear as if there is nothing more to be achieved.

4. Such signs appear in the attitude and behaviour of the individual, as muscle tension in various parts of the body, palpitation and high blood pressure, indigestion and hyper-acidity. Ultimately the result is self destructive behaviour such as eating and drinking too much, smoking excessively, relying on tranquilisers. There are other signs of stress such as trembling, shaking, nervous blinking, dryness of throat and mouth and difficulty in swallowing.

5. The professional under stress behaves as if he is a perfectionist. It leads to depression, lethargy and weakness. Periodic mood shifts also indicate the stress status of the students, executives and professionals.

6. In a study sponsored by World Health Organization and carried out by Harvard School of Public Health, the global burden of diseases and injury indicated that stress diseases and accidents are going to be the major killers in 2020.

7. The heart disease and depression - both stress diseases - are going to rank first and second in 2020. Road traffic accidents are going to be the third largest killers. These accidents are also an indicator of psycho-social stress in a fast moving society. Other stress diseases like ulcers, hypertension and sleeplessness have assumed epidemic proportions in modern societies.

8. A person under stress reacts in different ways and the common ones are flight, fight and flee depending upon the nature of the stress and capabilities of the person. The three responses can be elegantly chosen to cope with the stress so that stress does not damage the system and become distress.

9. When a stress crosses; the limit, peculiar to an individual, it lowers his performance capacity. Frequent crossings of the limit may result in chronic fatigue in which a person feels lethargic, disinterested and is not easily motivated to achieve anything. This may make the person mentally undecided,-confused and accident prone as well. Sudden exposure to un-nerving stress may also result in a loss of memory. Diet, massage, food supplements, herbal medicines, hobbies, relaxation techniques and dance movements are excellent stress busters.

(a) (i) What is stress ? What factors lead to stress ? 2

(ii) What are the signs by which a person can know that he is under stress ? 2

(iii) What are the different diseases a person gets due to stress? 2

(iv) Give any two examples of stress busters. 1

(v) How does a person react under stress ? 2

(b) Which words in the above passage mean the same as the following ? 3

(i) fall down (para 1)

(ii) rebuke (para 3)

(iii) inactive (para 9)

WRITING SKILLS

1 A.K International School is looking for a receptionist for the school. Write an advertisement on behalf of the administrative officer in the classified columns of the local newspaper giving necessary details. Draft the advertisement in not more than 50 words.

2 Suman/Suresh has cleared the Pre-Medical Pre-Dental entrance examination. The family is elated at the achievement and they decide to have a get-together for all friends. Draft an informal invitation for the get-together.

3. You are Shekhar/Tripta a student of A.P Public School. Principals of two schools from Pakistan visited your school as part of a cultural exchange programme. Students of the school put up a cultural show in their honour. Write a report about it for your school magazine. (100-125 words).

4. As you were driving back home from work you were witness to an accident between a Maruti car and a truck. The driver of the car was seriously injured. There was confusion and chaos prevailing on the road. Describe the scene in about 100 to 125 words. You are Sameer/Samiksha.

5. You are Nitin/Natasha a student of Class XII at K.P.N. Public School Faridabad. The student is required to cope with lot of pressure in today's competitive environment. Write a letter to the editor of a national daily highlighting the increasing stress faced by students and suggest ways to combat the same.

6. You are Suresh/Smita. You come across the following advertisement in a national daily. You consider yourself suitable and eligible for the post. Write an application in response to the advertisement.

Applications are invited for the post of a Nursery teacher in a reputed school of Delhi. The candidate must have at least 5 years experience of teaching tiny-tots. The applicant must have a pleasant personality. He/she should be creative and innovative. Attractive salary. Interested candidates should apply to The Principal, AKS International, Indirapuram, New Delhi within 10 days with detailed resume.

7. Some colleges conduct entrance test for admission to under-graduate courses like English (Hons.) and Journalism (Hons.). Do you think that the entrance test is the right method of selecting students? Write an article in about 150-200 words. You are Rohan/Rachita, a student of class XII at A.P. International School Agra.

8. Computer games and video games have become popular with children today. As a result outdoor games seem to have no place in their life anymore. You are Satish/Sakshi. You had the opportunity of playing Hide-n-Seek when you visited your cousins in a small town. You decide to write an article on your experiences about the joys of playing outdoor games for the school magazine. Write the article in 150-200 words.

9. You are the President of your school theatre club. Your club is organizing a play The Miser to help the victims of earthquake. Design a poster informing the students about this play. Invent necessary details.

10. The students' council of your school has organized an excursion to Goa for students of class XII during the Autumn Break. As President of the council, write a notice in not more than fifty words informing the students about this excursion. Sign yourself as Ravi / Raveena.

11. You are Rahul, the Head boy of Creative Public School, Delhi. Recently your school hosted the Regional Level CBSE Science Exhibition. Write a report of this event for your school newsletter in about 125 words.

12. The International Book Fair was inaugurated by the Chairman of Children's Book Trust, Dr. Kumar. The theme this year was Illustrated Works of Children. You are Akshay/Akanksha a class XII student of A.K. International School Mathura. You visited the exhibition and were impressed with the range of books on display. Write a factual description in about 125 words.

13. You are Naresh/Neetu. Recently, you came across a newspaper report on the burning of a young woman as her parents could not meet the dowry demands. You feel that even after 60 years of independence we have not really progressed as a nation. Write a letter to the editor of a local newspaper expressing your views and also giving suggestions to improve the status of women in Indian Society.

14. You are Satish/Sonali, the student prefect in charge of the school library. You have been asked to place an order for children's story books (Ages 10-13 yrs). Write a letter to M.S. Book Depot Ramnagar, Bikaner placing an order for the books. Invent the necessary details.

15. India is a country with diverse cultures, traditions, religious and political beliefs. To keep such a country together, to bind the people and take the nation ahead on the path of progress, democracy is the most suitable form of government. Write an article in about 150-200 words. You are Akshay/Asha a class XII student at Rosary Senior Secondary School Lucknow.

16. You are Amit/Amita a student of class XII at K.N. Senior Secondary School Nagpur. You recently visited a hill station along with your parents. It was an exhilarating, adventurous and joyful experience. Write an article for the school magazine sharing your experience in 150-200 words.

LITERATURE

The Last Lesson

1. Give two reasons why Franz thought of running away and spending the day out of doors?
2. What was more tempting than the rule of participles?
3. What was the bulletin board famous for?
4. Describe the usual scene and how was it different that day?
5. Describe the appearance of M.Hamel that day?
6. What surprised Franz on entering the classroom?
7. What was the news that came as a thunderclap to Franz?
8. Why were the elderly villagers present inside the classroom?
9. What was the opinion of M.Hamel regarding the French language?
10. How does M.Hamel evoke feelings of patriotism in the class towards the end of the lesson?
11. "We've a great deal to reproach ourselves with." Who says this and why?
12. The last lesson is a story that dwells upon universal human nature. Comment.

Long Questions

1. Character of M.Hamel.

2. When a people are enslaved, as long as they hold fast to their language it is as if they had the key to their prison.”Comment on the basis of the story The Last Lesson.

Lesson 2-The Lost Spring

1. Where does the author meet Saheb every morning?
2. What reason did Saheb give for not going to school?
3. Bring out the contrast drawn between his life in reality and the meaning of his name?
4. What reason does a person give for walking barefoot? What is the author’s personal opinion regarding this reasoning?
5. How does rag picking differ for an adult and for a child?
6. Was Saheb happy with the newfound job? If not, why?
7. Bring out the horrible condition within the glass blowing industry?
8. Describe the living condition in Firozabad?
9. Why are they reluctant to form into cooperatives?
10. What all things comprise the vicious circle from where there is no escape?
11. Why is daring a difficult task? What cheers the narrator while talking to Mukesh?
12. Why is Mukesh content to dream only of cars and not of planes?
13. Why are promises to the poor rarely kept?

Long Questions

1. Mukesh and Saheb are brothers in penury. Discuss.
2. Garbage is the lifeline of the rag pickers of Seemapuri.Discuss.
3. The extract ‘Lost Spring’ tells us about the callousness of society and political class to the sufferings of the poor. Is this true of contemporary India. Cite examples.

Lesson 3-Deep Water

Short Questions

1. Why the YMCA pool was considered safer when compared to Yakima River?
2. When did his aversion to water begin?
3. What was the misadventure that happened one day?
4. What strategy did he remember as he went down the water?
5. What effect did the drowning in the YMCA pool have on Douglas?
6. Why did he decide to have an instructor to teach him swimming?
7. What method did he adopt to overcome terror?
8. Bring out the significance of the ‘yellow water’ though he has specifically mentioned that the water was as clean and clear as the bathtub before experiencing drowning?
9. What is being conveyed by the author through the lesson, Deep Water’?

Long Questions

1. How did Douglas conquer his old terror?

2. What is the misadventure that William Douglas speaks about? How did it affect his life?
3. Why does Douglas as an adult recount a childhood experience of terror and his conquering of it? What larger meaning does he draw from this experience?

Lesson 4-The Rattrap

Short Questions

1. Why does the peddler feel that the whole world is a rattrap?
2. How did people usually treat the peddler and what made the crofter different?
3. How does the writer bring out the allegory in the lesson when the peddler is trapped in the forest?
5. What shows that Edla was very observant, quick and sharp by nature?
6. Why does Edla stop the peddler from going away though she knew that he was not the captain?
9. What trait of the daughter is brought out when her father talks about her being worse than a parson?
10. Safety and security is a distant dream even in one's own home. What makes the peddler safe and secure in the house of ironmaster?
11. What was Edla's Xmas gift to the peddler?
12. What was the peddler's gift to Edla?
13. Why does he sign in as the captain?

Long Questions

1. The metaphor of Rattrap highlights human nature. Discuss.
2. The story focuses on human loneliness and the need to bond with others. Comment.
3. Contrast the characters of the ironmaster and that of his daughter.
4. The story is both entertaining and philosophical. Discuss.

Lesson 5 – Indigo

Short Questions

1. What was the positive quality about Rajkumar Shukla? How did he benefit from this quality?
2. What proves that Gandhiji was an unknown figure in Patna?
3. Why were the government servants scared to be acquainted with a person like Gandhiji?
4. What was the first instance of achieving freedom from fear by the peasant community?
5. What made the lawyers shamefaced before Gandhiji?
6. Narrate how the civil disobedience became a triumph for the first time?
7. Why did Gandhiji agree to 25% refund when the actual demand was for 50%?
8. Why did he feel that help from the foreigner Mr. Andrews was unnecessary?
9. Why does he entrust teachers rather than politicians to make changes in the society?

Long Questions

1. Civil disobedience movement had triumphed for the first time in modern India. Elucidate.
2. What idea do you get about Gandhiji from the lesson Indigo?

3. What idea do you form of the Britishers from the lesson Indigo?

Lesson 8-Going Places

1. Sophie flits from one dream to another. What trait of hers is brought out by this action?
2. What made her dissatisfied with her life?
3. The unknown things are always a fascination for human beings. How is it true in the case of Sophie?
4. When Geoff queried whether she told their father about meeting Danny Casey, why was she chastened?
5. Does father believe his daughter's encounter with Danny Casey? If not, why?
6. What made her heave a sigh of relief when she knew that Geoff had not divulged all what she said?
7. How has Geoff helped in developing her fantasy about Danny Casey?
8. Did Sophie really meet Danny Casey?
9. Resignation is no sudden thing." What is the implication of this remark in the context of Sophie's character?

Long Questions

1. Fantasy is a pleasant relief at times but at times it can take a serious turn, which may prove detrimental to mental growth. . Elucidate with reference to the text focusing on the negative impact of fantasizing?
2. Sophie aspires for a romantic touch in her relationship with Danny Casey. What is the root cause of her imagination running wild?
3. What in your opinion is the reason behind her weaving a fantasy, is it a crush for an ace footballer or is it the love for glamour of a celebrity, if not at least the glamour of a person associated with a celebrity. Elucidate.
4. Sophie's dreams and disappointments are all in her mind. Discuss.
5. Contrast the characters of Sophie and Jansie.

Poetry.

My Mother at Sixty Six

1. What did the mother look like? What made the poet feel so?
2. What did she realize with pain?
3. How did she take her mind off the thought?
4. What does 'sprinting of trees' and 'spilling of children' refer to'?
5. Bring out the contrast portrayed by the scene outside with the state of the poet's mother.
6. Why is the mother compared to 'a late winter's moon'?
7. What is the childhood fear of the poet?
8. Though filled with negative thoughts in her mind, outwardly what did the poet reflect? Substantiate your point from the words /phrases from the poem.

9. Why has the poetess brought the image of ‘merry children spilling’?
10. What do you think is the pain and ache that the poet feels?
11. What do the parting words and her smile signify?

2. An Elementary School Classroom In A Slum

1. The poem begins on a very potent simile about the children’s faces. Explain.
2. Bring out the powerful imagery presented in the first stanza depicting despair and disease .
3. Why does the poet use ‘rat’s eye’ for the ‘paper seeming boy’?
4. Describe the powerfully telescopic image drawn by the picturisation of a sick boy.
5. Why is the class described referred to as ‘dim’?
6. History theirs whose language is the sun.-Explain.
7. Where does the sweet and young boys’ mind wander? What does it show?
8. What are the things that adorn the walls of the classroom? Why does it have no significance to the children?
9. Why is the ‘window’ depicted as the world of the children?
10. Why is their world far from river capes and star of words?
11. Why is Shakespeare ‘wicked ‘and maps ‘a bad example’?
12. What picture comes to your mind with the phrases ‘slag heap’ and ‘skin peeped through by bones’?
13. Why is the mended glass referred to as ‘bottle bits of stones’?
14. Explain: “so blot their map with slums”
15. Why is the slum referred to as ‘catacombs’?
16. What is the significance of the white and green leaves?
17. What modern imagery has been used in the poem?
18. Bring out the various poetic devices used by the poet to drive home the point
19. Explain spectacles of steel’.

3. A Thing of Beauty

1. In what way is a thing of beauty a joy forever?
2. Even though life is filled with sufferings what gives us the urge to go on and how?
3. What are the different sufferings drawn by out by the poet?
4. Name the objects of beauty.
5. How does art and Literature inspire man?
6. What is picturised as an immortal drink? What makes it outstanding?
7. Nature acts as a buffer against all the pain and sufferings .In what manner has God provided it to man?
8. Why is grandeur associated with the mighty dead?
9. What philosophy of life is highlighted in the poem?

4. Keeping Quiet

1. What does the poet mean by keeping still?
2. In order to achieve stillness what are we to do?
3. The period of stillness would provide a peaceful world. Explain with reference to the text?
4. Why does the poet not want any ‘truck with death’? How is inactivity and death different from stillness he is advocating?
5. Why do we threaten ourselves with death and what is the solution for this threat?
6. Nature is a great teacher. Discuss.
7. The poem begins with “Now we will count “and ends with “now I’ll count and you keep quiet’. What does the shift in the pronoun signify?
8. Explain the metaphor of the fishermen harming whales and man gathering salt?
9. Why does the poet want no truck with death?
10. What is the sadness that the poet talks about?

6. Aunt Jennifer’s Tigers

1. Justify the title ‘Aunt Jennifer’s Tigers’
2. Why is uncle’s wedding band heavy on Jennifer’s hand?
3. What are the characteristics of the tiger depicted in the poem?
4. How does the poet imply the point that art survives the artist?
5. Though Aunt Jennifer is a representative of women fighting against masculine authority and power what is the implication of creating a tiger that is extremely masculine and authoritative?
6. Explain—‘prancing tigers’, ‘sleek chivalric certainty’.
9. Write a note on the symbols used in the poem.
10. How do denizens and chivalric add to the understanding of the tiger’s attitudes?
11. Why are Aunt Jennifer’s hand’ fluttering through her wool’?

Vistas

Chapter 2. The Tiger King

1. What was the secret the astrologers had to reveal? How did they behave when compelled to speak the truth?
2. What incredible matter took place in the court? Why has this been compared to bulletin issued by the war office?
3. What justification did the tiger king give before he started out on tiger hunt?
4. Did the maharaja relent to the demands of the English officer? What did he do?
5. Why did tiger population become extinct in his kingdom?
6. Why did the king decide to get married? How far was the marriage successful?
7. What was the important factor that was considered for his marriage?
8. Once the maharaja decided to exempt a village from paying taxes, which he changed later on, and levied double tax on the village. What does this speak about the king?

9. "I have killed the hundredth tiger. My vow have been fulfilled"-was the Tiger King's vow really fulfilled? What happened on that day?
10. Why was the Maharaja not in a position to gift a real tiger to his son?
11. How did the death of the Tiger King take place?
12. Why does the author say the hundredth tiger took its final revenge?
13. Comment on the upbringing of the maharaja.

Long Questions

1. The story `Tiger King` reflects `the whims and fancies of people in power` Elucidate.
2. Tiger king shows the general behaviour of people towards animals. People like the tiger king are responsible for making some of creatures' endangered species. Express your views.
3. What idea do you form about the ruling Indian class during the pre-partition period?
4. How did the Tiger king die? What is ironical about it?

Chapter 4 -The Enemy

1. What did Dr. Sadao's father tell him showing the islands visible from seashore?
2. What was his father's chief concern?
3. Why was Sadao not sent abroad with the troops?
4. Why didn't Dr. Sadao show his interest in Hanna before knowing that she was a Japanese?
5. Why did Dr. Sadao hesitate to go to the American professor's house?
6. Why did Dr. Sadao & his wife discover on the seashore.
7. Though, a doctor why did Dr. Sadao & his wife hesitate a moment to help the bleeding & seriously injured man?
8. What did they think would be the best & the kindest thing to do for the injured man?
9. What made the doctor concerned that he was an American soldier?
10. What was the final decision taken by the doctor?
11. Why did they think of handing over the man to the police?
12. Why did Hanna hesitate to put the injured soldier on his deceased father in law's bed?
13. What made Dr Sadao attend to the injured soldier ?
14. Why did Dr Sadao decide to operate on the prisoner of war?
15. "What was the reaction of the servants? Can it be justified?"
16. What thoughts came to Hanna's mind when she was washing the wounds of the soldier?
17. "This man" he thought there is no reason under heaven why he should live." What prompted Dr. Sadao to say this? What does he do after this?
18. What impression do you form of General Takima?
19. What is the theme of the story?

Long Questions

1. How did Dr.Sadao help the prisoner to escape?
2. Character sketches of Dr.Sadao, Hanna,the general, the servants.

Chapter 5. Should Wizard Hit Mommy

1. What was the regular routine of Jack in the evening and for Saturdays?
2. What were the special features of the stories created by Jack?
3. Why didn't other animals play with Roger Skunk?
4. Is there any autobiographical element in the story created by Jack?
5. What was the observation made by Jo about God? What does it speak about her?
6. Why didn't Jack like to be interrupted by Jo?
7. What did the wizard tell Roger Skunk to do?
8. Why did Roger Skunk's mother dislike the new smell? What does it reveal about mothers in general?
9. What did Roger's mother ask him to do?
10. How did Jo want the story to end?
11. There is difference in opinion about the ending of the story of Roger Skunk. What does John Updike want to say through this story?
12. Why did Jack feel trapped?
13. What picture of Jack do you form from this story?
14. Explain 'ugly middle position'.
15. What is the moral issue that the story raises?
16. Can the story be read at more than one level?

Long Questions

1. The story "Should wizard hit mommy?" deals with a problem, which is very relevant today. Elucidate.
2. Jack though gave time to his children does not prove himself to be an ideal father. –Discuss
3. How is an adult's perspective different from that of a child?
4. Justify the significance of the title "Should wizard hit mommy".

Chapter 6. On The Face Of It

Short Questions

1. What impression did Derry have when he entered Mr. Lamb's garden?
2. Why does Derry say, "People are afraid of me?"
3. What did Derry have bitter feelings about other people?
4. What does Derry tell Mr. Lamb when he asked him about his face?
5. What opinion do you form of Mr. Lamb when he says "why is one green growing plant called a weed and another a flower"?
6. What similarity does Mr. Lamb find between him and Derry?
7. What is the significance of "bees buzzing and bees humming"?
8. "It's not what you look like it's what you are inside"- what do you understand from this statement?
9. Why does Mr. Lamb tell Derry that if he went back he would never return?
10. How did Mr. Lamb lose his leg?

11. What does Mr. Lamb tell Derry when he says that he does not like being with other people?
12. Why does Derry say “if I don’t go back there I’ll never go anywhere in this world”?
13. Why is Derry drawn towards Mr. Lamb in spite of himself?
14. What is the idea behind Mr. Lamb’s observation-- Everything’s the same, but everything is different?

Long Questions

1. “It’s not what you look like that matters but its what you are inside” how does the author bring out the truth of this statement through the play On The Face Of It?
2. `On the face of it` highlights the pains and conflicts on one hand and on the other it also shows that physically challenged people can cope with their disability. Elucidate.
3. Mr. Lamb is successful in changing Derry’s mindset. How did it become possible?
4. Society is indifferent to the needs of the physically challenged; rather people are cruel to them. Express your views with reference to “On the face of it”.
5. Comment on the ending of the play.
6. Brief character sketches of Mr.Lamb&Derry.

Chapter 8. Evans Tries an O level

Short Questions

1. What was the unusual request received from the Oxford prison by the secretary of the examination?
2. Why they decide to help Evans?
3. Why did Mr. Jackson call Evans ‘scruffy and what did that remind them to do?
4. How was Reverend Stuart Mcleery dressed when he came to the jail to invigilate? What did Mcleery carry with him?
5. Why did the governor bug Evans’s cell?
6. Which object in Mcleery’s suitcase puzzled Jackson?
7. How does the coyness of Evans help the governor remove the guards from the room?
8. What had actually happened to the real Mcleery?
9. Why does the governor say that Evans would not be with them the next September?
10. Who has the last laugh in the lesson? Justify.
11. According to you who all might have helped Evans in his escape?

Long Questions

1. The whole government machinery is used by Evans to escape. Discuss the corrupt system used by Evans to succeed in his mission.

Or

- How did Evans manage to take the whole machinery for a ride?
2. The governor, who looked into the intrinsic details and went to the extent of bugging the exam room, is literally taken for a ride what could be the reason and how could he have stopped this escape?

3. In spite of Evans being a prisoner the readers have their sympathy with him rather than with the governor. Discuss.
4. Character sketches of Evans, Stephens and Jackson.
5. What are the blunders committed by the prison staff?

Chapter 7. We Too Are Human Beings

Short Questions

1. What does Bama say about untouchability at the onset of the story?
2. What are the things, which did not allow Bama to reach home early?
3. When Bama saw the old man carrying a parcel in a peculiar manner she found it comical. Was it really something comical?
4. How did Bama feel when her brother told her the actual reason for the old man to carry the parcel in a special manner?
5. Which thought infuriated Bama?
6. What did Bama feel would be the right thing for them to do?
7. What had a deep impression on Bama?
8. What did she do when she came to know the reality of casteism?
9. What advice did Annan give Bama? How did she benefit?

Long Question

1. How did Bama come to know that casteism existed in society?
2. When Bama understood and realized that being born into a particular caste could bring with it untouchability, how did she react and what did she resolve to do?

Memories of Childhood

1. What gave no peace to Zitkala Sa?
2. What does the writer mean by “my spirit tore itself in struggling for its freedom”?
3. How were the Indian girls dressed?
4. Why did the author feel embarrassed in the dining room?
5. Why did the author start to cry when the others were busy eating in the dining room?
6. What was the warning given to the author by her friend?
7. Why did the author object to get her hair cropped?
8. What did Zitkala do to avoid cutting her hair short?
9. How did the author feel when her hair was cut short?

Long Questions

1. “No, I will not submit! I will struggle first! I answered” what does the author want to say through these words?
2. Zitkala Sa indeed fought before falling a prey to exploitation. How did she put up a brave fight?
3. “For now I was only one of many little animals driven by a herder” when did Zitkala Sa say this and why?
4. What impression do you form of Bama, Annan and Zitkala Sa?

Novel: The Invisible Man

- 1. The stranger's arrival at the inn was an unusual event. Moreover, his behaviour was very rude, yet Mrs Hall put up with his antics. Why?**
- 2. Describe the appearance of the stranger when he arrived at the inn. Why was Mrs Hall scared out of her wits by his appearance?**
- 3. Describe Teddy Henfrey's first impression of the Invisible Man.**
- 4. "It's a rummy case altogether." What was the 'rummy case'? What possible explanation was given for it?**
- 5. What difference do you find in Mrs. Hall's treatment of the stranger and her husband's? What traits of her character are highlighted by her approach?**
- 6. How did Griffin move about in the village of Iping? What were the rumours regarding his bandages?**
- 7. Describe the burglary that took place at Mr Bunting's house in your own words.**
- 8. "My good old furniture! 'Twas in that very chair my poor dear mother used to sit when I was a little girl. To think it should rise up against me now!" What had happened to Mrs Hall's furniture and why?**
- 9. Why did the narrator say that Mrs Hall had the better of the Invisible Man in the bar?**
- 10. The people of Iping village were no match for the Invisible Man. What happened when they all tried to get him arrested?**
- 11. Describe the stranger's behaviour while unpacking the crates. What does it indicate about his personality?**
- 12. Mr Cuss and Mr Bunting tried to play investigators, but Griffin humiliated them and still managed to escape with his three precious books. Elaborate.**
- 13. The Invisible Man lost his temper and left the village of Iping in ruins. Comment.**
- 14. Why did Mr Marvel want to resign from the post of Griffin's sidekick? Did Griffin let him go?**
- 15. At Port Stowe, a mariner got talking to Mr Marvel. Describe their meeting in your own words. What kind of a person was the mariner?**
- 16. How did the people at the 'Jolly Cricketers' react when Mr Marvel came running to them asking for refuge?**
- 17. Do you think that Griffin himself was responsible for his tragic end or the society forced him to turn against his own kind?**
- 18. Griffin got into the Omniums departmental store empty handed and left empty handed. Why did his plan fail?**
- 19. How did Dr Kemp use the knowledge given to him by Griffin to get the latter arrested? Were his attempts fruitful?**
- 20. Do you think that Dr Kemp was really a traitor as he cheated Griffin and let out all his secrets? Give reasons for your answer.**
- 21. What forced Griffin to burn down the house in Great Portland Street?**
- 22. What were the difficulties faced by Griffin to achieve his dream of invisibility? Were the ways adopted by him morally correct?**
- 23. Griffin's invisibility was like having a godly power, still he felt helpless. What do think were the reasons for his despair?**
- 24. Is the ending of the novel "The Invisible Man" happy and just? What is your reaction when Griffin gets killed and Marvel gets to keep all the stolen money?**

- 25. Are you glad that the invisibility formula is hidden from Kemp who could have used it? Illustrate.**
- 26. If science is used as a positive weapon, it has too many advantages. But, if used negatively, it can also have severe adverse effects. Discuss with reference to 'The Invisible Man.'**
- 27. If Griffin had used the formula of invisibility for the betterment of humanity, he would never have got trapped in the grip of death. Discuss with reference to 'The Invisible Man.'**
- 28. Everyone who comes into contact with Griffin suffers. Attempt a character sketch of Griffin in the light of this remark.**
- 29. How does the novel "The Invisible Man" highlight the theme of corruption of morals in the absence of social restriction?**
- 30. "Not wanton killing, but a judicious slaying. And Kemp, we must now establish a Reign of Terror." Describe how Griffin tries to spread his terror.**